(c) whether the Kasliwal Committee has submitted any report to Government so far; and

(d) if so, the main reommendations and the decisions of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV): (a) to (d) A High Level Coordination Committee was set up in January, 1994, under the Chairmanship of justice Shri N.M. Kasliwal, Retired Judge of the Supreme Court, to look into and advise in the matter of expeditious disposal of pending cases of compensation claims of the Bhopal Gas Victims. The Members of the Committee were Secretaries to the Government of India in the Departments of Law and Justice, Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Expenditure, Chief Secretary, Madhya Pradesh and the Commissioner for the Welfare of Bhopal Gas Victims. The Committee could not finalise its report. However, the Chairman has submitted his own report.

Allotment of Government Accommodation on Exchange Basis

*335. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that government accommodation of various types has been allotted on "exchange basis";

(b) if so, the criteria for making such allotments;

(c) the number of Government accommodations of different types allotted to employees on "exchange basis' during 1992-93, 1993-94 and till date;

(d) the number of Government offices having their own pool and the number of various types of government accommodations allotted to their employees on "exchange basis'; and

(e) the number of applications under considerations for allotment of accommodation on 'exchange basis' as on date and by when such requests would be considered?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) When an officer who has been allotted accommodation from the General Pool is transferred to an office, the staff of which is not eligible for general pool accommodation and which has its separate pool of accommodation he shall be permitted to continue to retain the general pool residence provided that the ineligible office to which the officiai is transferred has agreed to extend similar concession to its staff transferred to an office eligible for general pool accommodation.

(c) and (d) As per details at Annexure. [*See* Appendix 174, Annexure No. 59]

(e) Two requests for inter-pool exchange of quarters are pending at present.

India's Share in Global Rice Trade

*336. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is the second largest producer and consumer of rice in the World but its share in the global rice trade is only 4 per cent;

(b) whether it is also a fact that rice is India's prime cereal and occupies nearly one-fourth of the total cropped acreage but its yield is 26.7 quintal per acre as compared to the world average of 35.5 quintal per acre;

(c) if so, the reasons for its poor percentage global rice trade and low yield; and

(d) the steps being considered to improve its position in the global trade and yield?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The area under rice in the country, according to the latest statistics, is of the order of 23.3 per cent of the gross cropped area. According to FAU Production Year Book 1993, yield level of paddy in India during 1993 was 26.94 quintals per hectare as against world average of 35.75 quintals per hectare.

(c) Export of Indian rice in global market has been low on account of various factors, viz. consumer preference, quality, price competitiveness, availability etc. The reasons for low yield of rice include; Less area coverage